

## **Summary of DAT Conference Call 3/04/2008**

### **Participants**

JSpeegle(FWS), JWhite(DFG), AChu(DWR), BFujimura(DFG), EGleason(DFG), DAbellon(DWR), NHindman(FWS), BOppenheim(NMFS), CKao(SCVWA), FFeyerer(DWR), TBoardman (SLDMWA), TWashburn (BOR), LTren (DWR), LBartoo (FWS), THinojosa (DWR), JSnow (WWD), RShahcheraghi(DWR), BPoytress(FWS)

### **Conclusions and Recommendation**

No operational changes were recommended at this time.

Salmon loss density at the export facilities was exceeded on 2/29 and 3/1. The criteria is > 6 chinook loss per taf exports, combined. The combined loss density was 6.6 on 2/29 and 10.7 on 3/1. The density decreased below 6 by 3/2. The action is reduce exports to combined 6,000 cfs for 3 days or until loss density is < 6. The current delta smelt restrictions are more protective than the salmon action, therefore no action is necessary.

**Next DAT Conference Call Tuesday, 3/11/2008, 9:00 am - 11:00 am. 916/657-4111.**

### **Chinook Monitoring**

#### **Chinook Monitoring**

Upper Sacramento River: For the period 2/26/08 to 3/2/08, estimated fall Chinook salmon passage per day has been declining from about 276,000 to 27,000. The 6 day average for the period was 115,000 fall run juveniles passing per day. There has been intermittent catches of other runs of interest with passage estimate averages of 188 for winter-run, 94 for spring-run, and 5 for steelhead per day for the 6 day period.

FWS posts biweekly reports on the Bay-Delta and Tributaries Project website, at [http://baydelta.ca.gov/Php/Special\\_Reports/red\\_bluff.php](http://baydelta.ca.gov/Php/Special_Reports/red_bluff.php).

Mill Creek: After a period of non-operation, the traps were set on Feb 25<sup>th</sup>. 318 Chinook salmon fry, 3 yearling Chinook salmon, and 39 steelhead have been collected.

Deer Creek: After a period of non-operation, the traps were fishing from Feb 25<sup>th</sup> until March 2<sup>nd</sup> when low flows forced them to stop fishing again. 441 Chinook salmon fry, 4 yearling Chinook salmon, and 4 steelhead were collected during the sampling.

Butte Creek: No report.

GCID: DFG caught fry/smolts last week. The numbers decreased from 300 per day to 22 per day. No clipped Chinook, no steelhead.

Knights Landing: Catches of chinook salmon, including fry, fall run, and spring run, have increased recently (Jim, I have that catch increased and then later wrote decreased. Was it that the sth catch has decreased?). The highest catch was on Feb 28<sup>th</sup>, when it reached 1,284 per trap per day. For the week, over 5,000 Chinook salmon have been collected, including 10 winter run, 19 tagged fish, and 3 tagged steelhead.

## **Delta Monitoring**

DatCall Report from 02/24/2008 to 03/01/2008

Sac KDTR, 3 days, 30 samples, 426 CHNF, 5 CHNS, 4 CHNW, 7 CHNT & 1 SPLT  
Mossdale KDTR, 3 days, 30 samples, 1 CHNF & no other species of concern Benicia  
MWTR, 2 days, 19 samples, 1 RBT, 9 RBTC, 13 SPLT, & 14 LFS

Lower Sacramento Seine, 1 day, 4 samples, 25 CHNF, 2 CHNS & no other species of concern  
Sacramento Seine, 1 day, 5 samples, 80 CHNF, 2 CHNS, 1 CHNT & no other species of concern  
North Delta Seine, 1 day, 6 samples, 46 CHNF, 2 CHNT & no other species of concern  
Central Delta Seine, 1 day, 7 samples, 21 CHNF & no other species of concern  
South Delta Seine, 1 day, 2 samples, 2 CHNF & no other species of concern  
San Joaquin Seine, 1 day, 9 samples, No species of concern  
Bay Seine, 1 day, 3 samples, No species of concern

## **Delta Smelt Monitoring**

Spring Kodiak Trawl: DFG will begin Survey 3 on March 10th. The data for the first two surveys are posted on the DFG-Bay Delta website, <http://www.delta.dfg.ca.gov/data/skt/>.

20mm Survey: The 20mm Survey began Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. This first supplemental survey will sample one tow plus the CB net at 31 stations. The 10 south delta stations were sampled on Monday and the remaining stations will be visited this week. Samples will not be collected in San Pablo Bay, Napa River, or Montezuma Slough. It is anticipated the data will be available by the next DAT conference call.

Judge Wanger's Order: One spent female delta smelt was salvaged at CVP on February 17th triggering the Larval & Juvenile Delta smelt protection action (1.B.4.a). Under Action 1.B.4.a the Projects are required to achieve an average net upstream flow of Old and Middle Rivers (OMR) between 750 to 5,000cfs until the entrainment risk has abated or June 20th, whichever occurs first. FWS will make recommendations to WOMET regarding the OMR flow objective during this period. In addition, the new larval and

juvenile delta smelt monitoring was triggered (Action 1.B.2.b). CVP began monitoring for larval delta smelt 2/18.

DSWG – The DSWG met 3/4/08 and made a recommendation for the FWS. FWS will make their recommendation to WOMET on 3/5/08

## **Salvage Facilities**

Reporting Period: 2/25/08 to 3/2/08

Chinook salmon:

Winter-run sized Chinook salmon continued to be salvaged at the CVP and SWP fish facilities and were the most numerous race collected.

The daily salvage and loss of winter-run sized adipose clipped salmon were lower at both facilities this period and were declining through time. Conversely, non-clipped winter-run salvage loss appear to be increasing.

For this reporting period, loss of winter-run clipped was 15 at the CVP and 54 at the SWP.

For this reporting period, loss of winter-run unclipped was 71 at the CVP and 161 at the SWP.

Season total loss for unclipped W-R is 191 at the CVP and 556 at the SWP.

A few fall-run sized unclipped salmon were salvaged at the CVP and SWP during this period.

No late fall-run sized unclipped salmon were salvaged at the SWP. A few late fall-run sized unclipped salmon were salvaged at the CVP.

A few spring-run sized clipped salmon were salvaged at the CVP; a loss of 6 during this period.

No spring-run sized clipped or unclipped salmon were salvaged at the SWP.

Season total loss for all races for both facilities is 5506 ad clipped and 903 nonclipped salmon

Steelhead:

Compared to last reporting period, the daily numbers of salvaged clipped steelhead are lower at both facilities.

For the period of reporting, at the CVP, the salvage total of clipped steelhead is 344 and for nonclipped is 23.

For the period of reporting, at the SWP, the salvage total clipped steelhead is 274 for nonclipped is 149.

Seasonal total salvage for CVP is 1461 clipped and 191 nonclipped steelhead  
Seasonal total salvage for SWP is 1095 clipped and 505 nonclipped steelhead

Delta smelt:

Both CVP and SWP reported salvaging delta smelt during this period  
For this reporting period, the total salvage at CVP was 41 and the total salvage at the SWP was 2.

Seasonal salvage totals are 198 for CVP and 74 for SWP

Longfin smelt:

Only four LFS were salvaged at CVP during this reporting period.

Splittail:

Total splittail salvage was lower at both facilities compared to the previous reporting period.

For this reporting period, salvage totals for spt were 4 for CVP and 126 for SWP  
Total seasonal salvage for both facilities was 3541

4 white sturgeon were salvaged this reporting period at SWP.

No data were available on the larval fish sampling at the salvage facilities.

## **Operations**

SWP -  
CCFB – 1,000cfs.

Oroville – 1,150cfs  
X2 - ~ 64 km

E/I - 14-day ~8%

San Luis - SWP share of San Luis capacity is 917.7 taf.

CVP -  
Jones PP – 1,600cfs.

DCC - closed.  
Trinity - 300cfs

Clear Creek - 200cfs  
Keswick – 3,250cfs.  
Nimbus – 1,000cfs  
Goodwin – 225cfs.  
San Luis - CVP share of capacity is 856 taf.

#### Flows

Sacramento River at Freeport ~ 22,255cfs  
Fremont Weir ~ 0  
San Joaquin River at Vernalis ~ 2,200cfs  
Delta Outflow ~ 21,600cfs. 7-day average is 24,764cfs.  
Old & Middle River flow ~ 7-day average is -3,610cfs, provisional estimate of the 7-day average for March 3<sup>rd</sup> is -2,107.

Temperature – (daily average – 3/4/08)  
Antioch ~ 12.1C  
Rio Vista ~ 12.3C  
Mosssdale ~ 14.0C  
3-Station Average ~ 12.8C

#### Delta Water Quality

Since December 28, the Delta is in excess conditions due to OMR fish action objective. Delta water quality is okay and salinity levels remain below concern levels.

March Water Quality Standards (projected as of 2/25/08) –

Chippis Island X2 standard – The standard must be met for the full 31 days by a maximum daily EC of 2.64, a maximum 14-day running average EC of 2.64 or 3-day outflow of 11,400cfs.

Delta Cross Channel – The gates must be closed from February 1st to May 20th for the protection of winter-run Chinook.

Contra Costa Canal –  $Cl \leq 250$  mg/L. In addition,  $Cl \leq 150$  mg/L for 165 days per year.

South Delta – 30-day average EC  $\leq 1.0$ .

Suisun Marsh -  $\leq 8.0$  mS/cm.

Final copies of the DAT notes are now available on the CALFED Operations website at <http://wwwoco.water.ca.gov/calfedops/datsummaries.html>